

## Elevate Above Flooding Disaster Pomeroy and Rutland Benefit

**Salisbury, MD** - Salisbury Township is home to the river-crossing town of Pomeroy, population 2,200, near the southeastern corner of the state where U.S. Route 33 crosses the Ohio River into West Virginia.

Similar to most river towns, Pomeroy and the surrounding township have dealt with high water many times in their nearly 20-year history. Unfortunately, cycles of drought followed by heavy rain, deforestation of some area hillsides and increased runoff from recently widened state and federal highways contributed to even more frequent local flood damage during the late 1990's.

The village of Rutland is about five miles west of Pomeroy. It also has a history of flood damage, but the culprits there are Little Leading and Beech Grove Creeks, which carry runoff from the steep bluffs above the Ohio Valley through the village of about 500 residents.

When flash flooding occurs along the creeks, it often blocks State Route 124, the main east/west highway, and other emergency routes; and poses a serious safety threat to local residents, nearby property and public infrastructure.

The drenching rains and excessive runoff of March 1-2, 1997, hit Pomeroy and Rutland residents hard...but that disaster also provided an opportunity for some local families to escape the repeating cycle of damage, repair and more damage through funding for post-recovery mitigation projects. Those projects included elevation of 18 homes that had suffered significant damage in several previous floods.



Meigs County, Ohio



## **Quick Facts**

Sector:

**Private** 

Cost:

**Amount Not Available** 

Primary Activity/Project:

**Elevation, Structural** 

Primary Funding:

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**